Women in rural industries

†1697. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any headway for development and empowerment of womzen in the field of rural industries; and

(b) whether Government have for the first time conducted training programmes on the various issues like project management, WTO, gender issue etc. for enhancement of efficiency and strengthening in the field of implementation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) The Government has been implementing the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), a credit-linked subsidy programme, through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), throughout the country, to provide self-employment opportunities to unemployed persons in rural areas, including women. Under the REGP, women entrepreneurs are entitled to a higher rate of margin money assistance as compared with general category entrepreneurs. The details of village industry units set up by women entrepreneurs, under the REGP, with margin money assistance from KVIC and loans from banks, during 2003-04 are as under:

Year	Total Number of units set up	Number of units set up by women entrepreneurs	Percentage of units set up by women entrepreneurs
2003-2004	24747	5726	23.14

Similarly, under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) implemented in both rural and urban areas, self-employment opportunities are made available to educated unemployed youth. This too is a credit-linked subsidy scheme and is implemented through the District Industries Centres of the States and Union Territories, with the loans being provided by banks. The details of cases of women entrepreneurs sanctioned under the PMRY during 2003-04 are as under:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Year	Number of cases sanctioned	Number of cases of women entrepreneurs sanctioned	Percentage of cases sanctioned to women entrepreneurs
2003-04	259811	35892	13.81

Approximately, fifty per cent of these cases are estimtated to be in rural areas.

(b) The Government has been organizing workshops and seminars in the country to acquaint the small scale entrepreneurs with the WTO agreements and their implications for the small (including village) enterprises and offering guidance on how to avail of the advantages and face the challenges flowing from these agreements.

PMRY in Madhya Pradesh

†1698. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of loan disbursed by the banks under PMRY in Madhya Pradesh since 1999-2000 till date, bank-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether any irregularities have been found in disbursement of loans;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by Government against defaulters?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Bank-wise and year-wise details of the total amount of loans disbursed by the banks under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) in Madhya Pradesh since 1999-2000 till 2004-05 (upto January, 2005) are given in the Statement (*see* below).

(b) The Reserve Bank of India and Madhya Pradesh Government have not reported any irregularity in the disbursement of loans in Madhya Pradesh under the PMRY.

(c) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.